(c) if so, whether Government propose to check this trend; if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The National Channel of Doordarshan is the Public Service Broadcaster, and Prasar Bharati has informed that it telecasts all types of programmes on information, education and entertainment. Doordarshan-Metro is an Entertainment Channel where the content is driven by market conditions. Besides programmes on News & Current Affairs, Special Audience Programms are telecast which deal with rural viewers. The educational programmes represent rural culture and background. Prasad Bharati has intimated that majority of the sponsored programmes telecast have an urban background, but the genre of these are of common interest to the rural and urban population.

In order to increase programmes with rural background, Prasar Bharati has entered into a collaborative arrangement with the Rural Development Ministry to produce programmes on Rural Housing, Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Gram Samridhi Yojana, Panchayati Raj, Rural Social Assistance Programme, etc.

Grant-in-Aid to colleges of Indian System of Medicines

*119. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian System of Medicines Colleges are not very popular in the country;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to make this system more popular;

(c) what is the total grant-in-aid given to these institutions annually, State-wise; and

(d) what are the main parameters adopted in deciding the grants?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) The colleges of the Indian Systems of Medicine are becoming increasingly popular which is evident from the

number of colleges which ae functioning in the country. There are 387 colleges of Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy and 51 more have been added during last thre years.

(b) The Central Government is implementing various schemes for providing assistance to Under Graduate/Post Graduate Colleges for construction (only Government colleges), equipments, books etc. and for upgrading Under Graduate departments to Post Graduate level. The colleges are also being assisted to conduct Re-orientation Training Programme for teachers and physicians. Several audio-visual aids are being sent to the institutions to improve the quality of the lectures.

(c) and (d) The details of assistance given and para meters adopted for extending assistance are laid as per Statement-I and II on the Table of the House.

Statement-I

Grant-in-aid released to States during 2000-01 for strengthening the existing ISM&H Undergraduate and upgradation of Under Graduate Department to Post Graduate Department

Name of the State	No. of Institutions assisted	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
Andhra Pradesh	1	50.65
Bihar	4	70.00
Delhi	1	22.00
Jammu & Kashmir	2	14.00
Gujarat	2	38.85
Himachal Pradesh	1	14.705
Karnataka	10	87.16
Kerala	2	29.00
Madhya Pradesh	1	27.00
Maharashtra	26	266.69
Orissa	2	56.52
Punjab	1	12.00
Rajasthan	1	27.00

Name of the State	No. of Institutions assisted	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
Uttar Pradesh	5	88.30
West Bengal	1	12.00
Tamil Nadu	2	110.81

Statement-II

Conditions of Eligibility for grant-in-aid

The following criteria is required to be followed by this Department while screening the proposals for grant-in-aid under the scheme for strengthening of existing Under Graduate colleges of Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy:—

1. The institutions/colleges should have been duly recognised by CCIM/CCH.
2. The institutions/colleges should have completed 5 years of existence and at least one batch of students should have successfully come out of the institution.
3. The institution/colleges should have a minimum admission capacity of 30 students at least every year.
4. There should be regular turn over of graduate students.
5. Should have functioning teaching hospital with adequate case load.
6. Priority is to be given to Government institutions/colleges.
7. There should be at least 50% of the prescribed teaching staff in position.
8. Relaxation may be considered for colleges/institutions in the North-eastern States/Sikkim and J & K.
9. NOC from the State Government in the prescribed proforma.